THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir. Under National Seeds Project-Ill, an assistance of Rs. 121.50 crores has been made available to the two National and ten State Seed Corporations for financial and operational restructuring to enable them to become economically viable. The assistance was provided by way of contribution towards margin money, equity, contributors share for raising institutional finance, repayment of loan to Government and banks.

(b) and (c) .The assistance provided to the Corporations has improved the financial and working efficiency of these Corporations, and has resulted in reduction in loan burden, increase in financial and. physical turnover, restructuring of organisation, creation of infrastructural facilities, and improved financial performance to be able to distribute certified/ quality seeds to the farming community.

Introducing Career Oriented Courses in Delhi University

1262. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH:
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is need to analyse admission trends in college education in view of seats lying vacant in subjects covered under pure science and liberal arts, including humanities in different colleges of Delhi;

(b) whether Government propose to introduce more career oriented applied sciences and vocational courses from next year as students are no longer interested in pursuits of academic career purely for the sake of knowledge; and

(c) if so, the details of the perspective planning therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Transfer of FP&ARD to Ministry of Agriculture

1263. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2890 given in Rajya Sabha on 31.3.95 and state:

(a) whether Government have since taken a decision to transfer Fertilizer Promotion and Agricultural Research Division (FP&ARD) under Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation (HFC) to Ministry of Agriculture because of its potential for fertilizer promotion and education among the farmers;

(b) whether Government have noted that the activities of FP&ARD are closely related with the marketing of fertilizers and the efficient functioning at field level as well as the result oriented approach could be achieved if it is managed by the fertilizer producing companies; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon alongwith any short-term and lorfe-tcrm plan been made for full utilisation of PP&ARD?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): . (a) to (c) The Fertilizer Promotion and Agricultural .Research Division (FP&ARD) of M6. Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC) is an agency basically involved in farm related research and connected extension work. The activities of FP&ARD are not directly rclatable to the commercial

activities of HFC. FP&ARD had previously taken up a number of externally aided projects which had enabled HFC to meet a major part of FP&ARD's cost. After 1993, no such projects are in hand.

Recently, under its "Lab to Land Programme", the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has engaged HFC to establish Krishi Vigyan Kendras. In addition to normal marketing functions of the company, FP&ARD has started training, demonstration and other activities like horticulture, fisheries and poultry under the aegis of the Krishi Vigyan Kendras at Durgapur and Sindri. FP&ARD is also involved in formulating intensive programmes for training farmers in the use of bio-pesticides and eco-friendly systems from 1995-96.

Since no new extension projects with external funding are forthcoming, the Government is exploring other alternatives for the efficient deployment of the manpower of FP&ARD.

DDA's Expandable Housing Scheme, 1995

1264. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether area of houses allotted by DDA under the Expandable Housing Scheme, 1995 was calculated vertically;

(b) whether such method of calculation was explained in brochure and if not, the reasons therefore;

(c) whether the applicants were misled thereby; if so, whether Government propose to refund the initial deposit to the successful applicants, not willing to accept the houses; if so, when;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the reasons for giving such a misleading advertisement and, how the DDA would compensate the applicants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. DDA has reported that the area constructed by it and the ultimate area of the houses allotted under Expandable Housing Scheme, 1995 vary from location to location. Details of these areas were indicated in the brochure of the scheme. The typical plan of expandable house contained in the brochure of the scheme clearly showed that the area to be constructed by the allottee is to come up vertically over the area already constructed by DDA.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Reservation for Mentally Retarded Persons

1265. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide one per cent reservation for those mentally retarded persons i.e. persons who have physical, visual, hearing, speaking fitness but whose I.Q. in between 50% to 70% in the country for direct recruitment in Group 'C and 'D' posts in Government departments and public sector undertakings;

(b) whether Government have received representations also for providing such reservation from the various organisations connected with mentally retarded persons; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the steps taken by Government to protect the interests of the mentally retarded persons in the country in regard to their subsistent?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) No proposal to provide 1% reservation for mentally retarded persons in Group C & D posts in Government and Public Sector